

*AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION*

Replace the paragraph at page 47, lines 14-20, with:

This magnetic carrier was spherical or granular, and showed an average particle size of 0.32  $\mu\text{m}$ , a coercive force of 5.18 kA/m (65 oersted) and a saturation magnetization of ~~68.3~~ 63.8  $\text{A}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{kg}$  (67.3 emu/g). The amount of the coated silica was 19.4 wt% relative to the magnetite particle upon conversion to  $\text{SiO}_2$ . By SEM, adhesion of silica in the vicinity of the surface of each magnetite particle was observed.